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Ten Cents Per Week.

VOL. II.

MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE, THURSDAY EVENING, MAY 31, 1866.

And, placing himself in front of his column, the Colonel drew his sabre and

gave the order to "charge!"

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"Surry of Eagle's Nest."

We copy from "Surry of Eagle's Nest," a new war novel, by John Esten Cooke, of Virginia, the following amusing account of an adventure by the hero of the novel, Major Surry:

To come to the actual occurrences of that time—I was with the cavalry tear-guard between Harrisonburg and Cross Keys, some miles from Point Republic, at which point the infantry was concentrating, when a dust rising upon the flank attracted my attention and I told Ashby that I would go and ascertain

what it meant.

"Take care, Surry," was his reply;

"the enemy is close behind us, and you will be captured." I reckon not

"Well, keep a good look out. The Federal advance-guard is commanded by Sir Percy Wyndham, an English officer,

horse and went at full speed in the direction of the dust, following a narrow for-

Unfortunately Ashby's fears were speedily realized I had not gone a quarter of a mile, when a detachment of cavalry flankers debouched quietly into the road behind me, and leveling their carbines, ordered me to surrender.

It was the coolest and most business-like affair I had ever witnessed, reader. No ill-bred hurry—no excitement—no "violent language," or unpleasant collision. Within twenty steps of me were twenty carbines, cocked and aimed at my breast the officer at the head of the men-commanded "Surrender, or you are lead"—and, with bitterness in my heart,

surrendered. You are an officer, sir?" he said, rid-

"What command?"

"The Confederate States army." Rather a considerable force in our front, Lieutenant, said the officer, who send the prisoner under guard to Col. vndham.

The Lieutenant touched his hat-I remember he was a villainous looking fel-low—and three men separated themselves rom the column and took charge of me. Kill him it he tries to escape," said the homorous officer.

The men cocked their carbines, and

rested them across their pommels; and have your wish, and come and see me do with this pleasing escort, I was conducted, by a winding road, which I had "And I, Colonel," said the corresponremembered passing on the previous dent. evening.

Here superbly equipped horses were seen tethered to the boughs and fences-couriers went and came—and my escort Percy Windham, commanding the cav-alry advance guard of the Federal

I found myself in the plain sitting of a small farm house. On a table dle, the Colonel riding at the head of the were spread maps and papers; and a squadron at a trot, on the straight road to Cross Keys.

The column had not advanced half a

flanked by glasses.

Lolling in a split-bottomed rocking mile when Ashby's cavalry pickets apchair was a tall, fine looking personage, peared in front, reconncitering from the clad in a superb uniform, and wearing a sabre with a magnificently chased hill.

The videttes held their ground until the which rattled against French cavalry column was nearly apon them, when they which rattled against French cavalry boots, decorated with enormous spars. The countenance of this officer was ruddy handsome, and full of pride. His hair, was light, long, and worn in curls. It was a military Adonis I saw before me in the person of Sir Percy.

When I entered, he was talking with a sleek personage, clad in citizen's dress, who had on his knees a portfolio, in which lay some loose sheets of paper covered by the Federal Colonel subjected him, I

lay some loose sheets of paper covered with writing Upon my appearance, this gentleman seized a pen, dipped it in the ink, and held it poised above his paper, with the air of a man who is going to re-

and looked keenly at me. When were you captured ?"

Half an hour ago. "You are an officer—a Major, I see, tired as he appeared.
The Colonel greeted the spectacle with

To whom?"

prudently withdrawn to the side of the road. "Look out for some fun!"

"Well, sir, you can, no donbt, favor ne with a repetition of that reply." I replied that I belonged to the Cenfederate States army.
"Close, Colonel!" here interposed the sleek gentleman in black, who had hastily scratched away at his pen as this dialogue

scratched away at his pen as this dialogue took place.

"A perfect trap!" exclaimed the Colonel, lolling carelessly in his chair; "but I have never known a sirgle rebel officer who had not this exagerated idea of secrecy in everything. Now, I make no mystery of my movements—none."

"You are going to bag Ashby, Colonel, and that's a fact," came, with a laugh, from the sleepy personage.

laugh, from the sleepy personage.

"I swear I will. At least you can tell me, sir," he added, turning to me, "whether you know Gen. Ashby."

"Intimately, sir."
"Ah!" and the Colonel rose in his

"I have been with him throughout the retreat—though I am not attached to his command." These words seemed to attract the Colonel's attention and excite his inter-

Take a seat Major, he said. "I did not hear your name.

"Surry."
"An English name. You Virginians come of the genuine English stock—and ought to fight well." We try to do the best we can, Colo-

And you do it devilish well, Major. Ashby has given me a world of trouble."
"He will be delighted to hear it, when come back.

"Ha! but I'm not going to part with you so soon, my dear sir. Let us talk a little, first." Willingly, Colonel."

"I have sworn to capture Ashby."
"Don't you think it is a difficult undertaking?"
"Well, he is cool and watchful enough, but I will get the better of him yet. I thought I had him the other day at the

Over the Shenandoah?" "Yes-did you see the chase after 'I was with him."

"Ah! then you were the officer we Yes, Colonel; but your pursuing party went a little too far.

'Ashby cut down one with his subre, and the other was shot The Colonel frowned. "And that's a fact, Sir Percy," said the sleek gentleman, scribbling away.

I saw the bodies as we passed."
"Curse what you saw, sir," was the reply. I wouldn't take anything for that incident, Colonel," exclaimed the newspa-per correspondent—for such he evident y was—"rapid retreat of rebels, pursu d by victorious Unionists—bridge burning in the rear—Ashby on white charger retheir way nearly out, but were finally killed by treacherous blows from behind. It will be splendid, Colonel."

A careless laugh from the Colonel greeted this magnificent picture, and, at the same moment, an officer galloped up stage.

"A pumpkin, by thunder!" exclaimed an inebriated chap, just in front of the stage.

Well?" said the Colonel. "The enemy are falling back again, Entirely?"

Nothing seen, sir, but a detachment of cavalry, commanded by Gen. Ashby."
"How do you know that?"
"I saw him distinctly through my glass, and know him perfectly."

The Colonel started up.
"Order a squadron of picket men to
report to me here in fifteen minutes," he
said to a staff officer on the porch of the farm house.

Then, turning to the newspaper correspondent, he said:
"Do you wish to secure material for a

five paragraph?"
"I would go through fire and blood to
do so!" exclaimed the correspondent in a martial tone, and brandishing his pen. You like amusement?

"I am devoted to it, Colonel." "Well, come with me, and you will see some fun.
"What is your design, Colonel?"
"To bag Ashby."
And the Colonel twirled his moustache

with joyful ardor. A quick thrill ran comed to be something of a humorist; tone, I turned to Sir Percy, and said: "I should really like to be present at that little affair, Colonel."

"You."
"I can ride in the rear, under guard and in either event, there will be small danger of my escaping.
"In 'either event?" My dear sic, I intend to capture your General Ashby as

sure as the sun shines. As you doubt it

"Of course! You are the historian to

hand me down to posterity." As the Colonel, now in good humor, outiers went and came—and my escort turned away, I saw a grimace upon the conducted me into the presence of Sir countenance of the correspondent. He was evidently a philosopher, and estima-ted the element of failure in all human affairs.

by the Federal Colonel subjected him, I knew, to imminent peril of capture. In thirty minutes events took place

which fully supported my view of the Reaching a point where the roads tra Port a public speech.

"A prisoner, Colonel," said my escort.

The Colonel wheeled round in his chair ranges of hills on either side, Colonel ranges of hills on either side Wyndham saw in front of him, at the distance of about four hundred yards, a small body of cavalry, which slowly re-

"I have already replied to that ques-on." Now for it!" I heard him call out to his friend, the correspondent, who had ACENCIES.

PAUL & CROCKETT. Agents for

The column rushed forward at the word—but oh! disastrons event—occurrence ever to be deplored!—no sooner had the horses of the Federal cavalrymen run thrice their length, than the crest on the right of the road in their rear sudderly bristled with sabres, and a squadron led by Ashby in person, thun-dered down and fell with shouts upon the Celebrated

Federal rear.
At the same instant the detachment in front, which had served as a decoy, charged the enemy full tilt; and, caught between this double fire, cut off, surrounded, dumb-founded, the Federal cavalrymen threw down their arms and

surrendered. I was recaptured, and found myself by Ashby's side, face to face with Colonel Wyndham. The newspaper correspond-ent had glided into the woods and

escaped.

I shall never forget the expression of the Federal Colone's countenance at that moment. If ever rage, mortifica-tion and astonishment were depicted on human face, his displayed them.

When he caught my eye he glauced at me like a tiger, and turned abruptly

Ashby treated his prisoner with that calm courtesy which characterized him, but the Colonel would not be molified. His face was flushed, his eyes full of lurid light—wrath had mastered him. The few words he had blurred out had something savage in them; and when he was conducted to the rear, through the lines of infantry. I heard that his

the lines of infantry, I heard that his wrath exploded. Some one among the men greeted him, I heard, with the words: "Just look at the Yankee Colonel!" when his long pent up anger burst forth like a torrent. His peculiar abhorrence, it is said, was to be considered a "Yankee"—and this was the straw that broke the

camel's back. Ashby captured sixty four men, if my memory serves me, by this ambush; and

these were now sent to the rear. Your luck is extraordinary, my dear Surry, he said, "to be captured and re-captured both in one day. I am truly glad to see you again. Come and tell me about it

I narrated all that had occurred, and my companion said, with a smile;
"The worst of all possible habits in a commander is to boast of what he is go-

"Especially when he doesn't do it."
And we rode on.

An orator, in appealing to the "bone and sinew," said: "My friends, I am proud to see around me to night, the hardy yeomanry of the land, for I love by victorious Unionists—bridge burning in the rear—Ashby on white charger retiring at fall gallop—unfortunate fate of two of his pursuers, who, surrounded by a whole brigade of rebel cavalry, fought their way nearly out, but were finally rative expression, my friends, I may say I was raised between two rows of corn."

"A pumpkin, by thunder !" exclaimed

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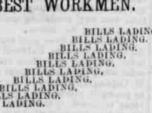
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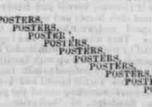


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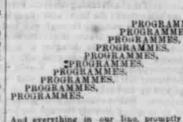


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Again, pointing to errors of practice in New York companies, the Ætna's succeedul management and solid rules are called to their attention thus:

"It still remains more a matter of wonder than imitation in the insurance world."

The average losses per diem in the United tates, at this period of the year, are about

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